

[28 November 2001] RAJYA SABHA

Israel for defence equipments. It is not in the interest of national security to give further details.

Equipping Jaguar with self-protection Jammer

1094. SHRI S. RAMACHANDRAN PILLAI: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the plan of Air Force to equip the 32 Jaguar fleet with self-protection Jammer, a critical electronic warfare equipment, has been jeopardized even after an expenditure of Rs. 184 crore affecting the overall operational capacity of Air Force;

(b) if so, what are the reasons therefor; and

(c) whether any responsibility has been fixed thereon?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

Present stage of development of AJT Aircrafts

1095. SHRI S. AGNIRAJ:

,SHRI RAMACHANDRA KHUNTIA:

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) what is the present stage of development and testing of Advance Jet Trainer Aircrafts (AJTA) for Indian Air Force;

(b) when they are likely to be inducted;

(c) what is the total expected funds required and the amount spent so far; and

(d) what will be the main benefits of this AJT Aircrafts to the Indian Air Force?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES): (a) to (c) Various options for the acquisition of an Advanced Jet Trainer are under examination by the Government. No deal has been finalized as yet. However, Government is keen on early finalisation of the acquisition process.

(d) The Indian Air Force has identified the requirement of an